

BOISDUVAL TYPES OF AEGERIIDAE IN THE WM. BARNES COLLECTION OF N. A. LEPIDOPTERA.

BY GEO. P. ENGELHARDT, Brooklyn Museum.

Dr. Wm. Barnes, of Decatur, Ill., under date of February 17, submitted to me for examination a number of specimens of North American Aegeriidae which he acquired from the Oberthür collection.

This acquisition by Dr. Barnes proves to be of great importance, inasmuch as all the specimens, except two, bear labels indicating that they are types and of certain species which, because of the meager descriptions and the assumption that the types were lost, could not be determined and have been ignored. These type specimens, checked up with Boisduval's original descriptions, establish beyond a doubt which species he had in hand; and a matter of long standing confusion in nomenclature can now be straightened out.

Sesia bibionipennis Boisduval.

Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique, Vol. XII, p. 64, No. 65, 1869. "California. Taken in flight in the woods."

The type is a male of the strawberry root borer. *Synanthedon rutilans* Hy. Edw.—Papilio, Vol. 1, p. 186, 1881.

S. bibionipennis must be retained for reasons of priority and *S. rutilans* falls into synonymy.

Sesia chrysidipennis Boisduval.

Ann. Soc., Ent. Belgique, Vol. XII, p. 64, No. 64, 1869. "Taken on flowers—Los Angeles."

The type of this species is not included, but the description readily identifies it as the female of *Synanthedon bibionipennis*, of which it becomes a synonym.

Sesia nomadaepennis Boisduval.

Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique, Vol. XII, p. 63, No. 63, 1869. "Found on flowers."

The type is a male of *Memythrus pyramidalis* (Walker), (Cat. Lep. Brit. Mus. Pt. VIII, p. 40, 1856), of which it becomes a synonym.

Sesia anthracipennis Boisduval.

Hist. Nat. Lep. Het., Vol. I, p. 392, 1875, "Georgia."

The female. This is a valid species which has remained unrecognized. Represented in the writer's collection by an unnamed series of specimens of both sexes in poor condition col-

lected by Thos. Van Aller, of Mobile, Ala., during September. It will be treated and figured in a forthcoming publication.

Sesia asilipennis Boisduval.

(America boreal.)

Guérin-Ménéville, Cuvier's, Règne Animal, Vol. II, 1829, p. 496, Pl. LXXXIX. Fig. 3 (Male).

A valid species, now listed as *Paranthrene asilipennis* (Boisd.) The male type lacks antennae and most of the legs, but is otherwise well preserved.

Sesia xiphiaepennis Boisduval.

(America boreal.)

This name is not listed in the literature which I have at hand. The type is a female of the peach borer, *Synanthedon exitiosa* (Say), under which it falls as a synonym.

Synanthedon texana (Hy Edw.)

Georgia, Fla.—Wittfeld.

Represented by two unnamed specimens, male and female.

Aserica castanea: A New Japanese Lawn Pest.—Mr. George P. Engelhardt in the October, 1927, BULLETIN OF THE BROOKLYN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Vol. XXII, p. 218, informs us of an invasion of the Japanese Beetle (*Popillia japonica*) on Long Island, N. Y. We now report upon another species of Japanese beetle, *Aserica castanea*. This beetle appeared in vast numbers during the summers of 1926 and 1927 in Woodlawn Cemetery and adjacent localities. The beetles seriously injured the English ivy on the graves and a few other kinds of plants, but did not seem to feed on any trees, shrubs or flowers. The beetle is nocturnal in habit and during the day lies buried about an inch or so beneath the surface of the ground. It is very active and runs almost like a carabid. In the larval stage it is a very serious pest to lawns, feeding upon the roots of the grass, causing it to turn brown and die. Some of our most valuable lots in the cemetery were destroyed and had to be reseeded. The beetle begins to appear about July 4 and is on the wing until about the middle of August. The damage to the lawns becomes noticeable during September and October.

WILLIAM BEUTENMULLER, Teaneck, N. J.